

America's Immortals

Most striking instances of gallantry for which the Distinguished Service Cross has been awarded

The blood of every loyal American will be stirred by the little stories of conspicuous bravery on the part of American soldiers in France that are printed below. These are only a few of thousands of cases of unusual gallantry that won for Pershing's fighters the Distinguished Service Cross. These cases have been picked out by General Pershing's staff as among the most notable of the thousands that are now a part of the official record of the American expeditionary forces.

GEORGE S. ROBB,

First Lieutenant, 369th Infantry.

For conspicuous gallantry, beyond the call of duty, near Sechart, France, September 29 and 30, Lieut. Robb was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. While leading his platoon in the assault on Sechart, Lieut. Robb was severely wounded by machine gun fire, but rather than go to the rear for proper treatment, he remained with his platoon, until ordered to the dressing station by his commanding officer. Returning within forty-five minutes, he remained on duty throughout the entire night, inspecting his lines and establishing outposts. Early the next morning he was again wounded, once again displaying remarkable devotion to duty by remaining in command of his platoon. Later the same day a bursting shell added two more wounds, the same shell killing his commanding officer and two officers of his company. He then assumed command of his company, and organized its position in the trenches. Displaying wonderful courage and tenacity at the critical times, he was the only officer of his battalion who advanced beyond the town and by clearing machine gun and sniping posts, contributed largely to the aid of his battalion in holding their objective. His example of bravery and fortitude and his eagerness to continue with his mission despite severe wounds, set before the enlisted men of his command a most wonderful standard of morale and self-sacrifice. Lieut. Robb's home address is 308 South Twelfth street, Salina, Kan., where his mother lives.

ANDREW B. LYNCH,

Second Lieutenant, 110th Infantry.

Lieutenant Lynch was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for unusual bravery in action near Apremont, France, September 29, 1918. Lieutenant Lynch while a sergeant on duty with a 87 mm. gun section of his company was moving the guns to a more advantageous position when he learned that the officer in charge of the party had been captured by an enemy patrol. Organizing a group of five men, Lieutenant Lynch immediately attacked the Germans, killed 15 of them and liberated the officer. Immediately afterward Lieutenant Lynch took command of 75 men and launched a counter-attack on the enemy, driving him back for more than a kilometer. Lieutenant Lynch is married, his wife living at 2446 Franklin street, Philadelphia, Pa.

FRANK GAFFNEY,

Private, First Class, Company G, 108th Infantry.

Private Gaffney earned his Distinguished Service Cross by conspicuous gallantry in action near Ronsoy, France, September 29, 1918. Private Gaffney, an automatic rifleman, pushed forward alone with his gun, after all the other members of his squad had been killed, discovered several Germans placing a heavy machine gun in position. He killed the crew, captured the gun, bombed several dugouts and, after killing four more of the enemy with his pistol, held the position until reinforcements came up, when eighty prisoners were captured. His home is in Lockport, N. Y., and his father is Wilbur Gaffney, Chapel street.

JOHN J. FARRELL,

Private, Company B, 354th Infantry.

Private Farrell (deceased) was decorated for conspicuous gallantry in action near Remonville, France, November 1, 1918. When the combat group of which he was a member was held up by machine gun fire of the enemy, Private Farrell left the group, crawling around to the flank of the best he charged with his bayonet. The enemy surrendered and his comrades took the gun, after which the advance continued. Private Farrell was so seriously wounded during the combat that he died before he could be removed from the field. Paterson, N. J., was his home.

JAMES I. MESTROVITCH,

Sergeant, Company C, 11th Infantry.

Sergt. Mestrovitch (deceased) decorated for exceptional bravery in saving the life of his company commander at Fismette, France, August 30, 1918. Seeing his captain lying wounded thirty yards in front of the line, after his company had withdrawn to a sheltered

position behind a stone wall, Sergt. Mestrovitch voluntarily left cover and crawled through heavy machine gun and shell fire to where the officer lay. Sergt. Mestrovitch took the officer upon his back and crawled back to a place of safety, where he administered first aid treatment, his exceptional heroism saving the officer's life. Sergt. Mestrovitch's home was in Fresno, Cal.

ARTHUR F. BRANDT,

Corporal, Co. E, 168th Infantry.

Corporal Brandt, whose home was with his mother, Mrs. W. F. Brandt at Postville, Iowa, won the Distinguished Service Cross for conspicuous bravery in action northeast of Verdun, France, October 16, 1918. After his company had been in action three days, during the attack on the Cote de Chatillon and was to be relieved, Corporal Brandt volunteered to guide the company to a position of security in the rear which he had selected. While the relief was being made under shell fire, this soldier and four others were severely wounded by a bursting shell. Realizing that his wound would prove fatal, Corporal Brandt while being carried on a stretcher indicated the route to be taken by the company, being wounded in the face and scarcely able to talk. Through his extraordinary fortitude and will power, the company was able to reach its position over difficult terrain and under enemy fire. Corporal Brandt died from his wounds the next day.

REIDER WAALER,

Sergeant, Company A, 105th Machine Gun Battalion.

Sergeant Waaler was decorated for conspicuous gallantry in action near Ronsoy, France, September 27, 1918. Sergeant Waaler, in the face of heavy artillery and machine gun fire, crawled forward to a burning British tank, in which some of the crew were imprisoned, and succeeded in rescuing two men. Although the tank was then burning fiercely and contained ammunition which was likely to explode at any time, this soldier immediately returned to the tank and entering it made a search for the other occupants, remaining until he satisfied himself that there were no living men in the tank. His home address is Norestrand, Norway.

WILLIE SANDLIN,

Sergeant, Company A, 132nd Infantry.

Sergeant Sandlin was decorated for conspicuous gallantry in action at Bois De Forges, France, September 26, 1918. Sergeant Sandlin showed conspicuous gallantry in action at Bois De Forges on September 26, by advancing alone directly on a machine gun nest which was holding up the line with its fire. He killed the crew with a grenade and enabled the line to advance. Later in the day Sergeant Sandlin attacked alone and put out of action two other machine gun nests, setting a splendid example of bravery and coolness to his men. His brother, Johnnie Sandlin, lives in Hayden, Kentucky.

ARCHIE A. PECK,

Private, Company A, 307th Infantry.

Private Peck was decorated for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in the Argonne forest, France, October 6, 1918. While engaged with two other soldiers on patrol duty, Private Peck and his comrades were wounded. Returning to his company, he obtained another soldier to accompany him, to assist in bringing in the wounded. His assistant was killed in the exploit but Private Peck continued on, twice returning and safely bringing in both men, being under terrific machine gun fire during the entire journey. His home is in Hornell, N. Y.

CHARLES D. BARGER,

Private, First Class, Company L, 354th Infantry.

Private Barger was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for conspicuous gallantry in action near the Bois de Bantheville, France, October 31, 1918. Learning that two daylight patrols had been caught out in No Man's Land and were unable to return, Private Barger and another stretcher bearer, upon their own initiative, made two trips 500 yards beyond our lines, under constant machine gun fire, and rescued two officers. His uncle, Henry S. McFeron, lives in Stott City, Miss.

WALTER S. SEVALIA,

Corporal, Co. F, 7th Engineers.

Corporal Sevalia was decorated for extraordinary heroism in action near Breuille, France, November 3, 1918. Corporal Sevalia swam the Meuse river with a cable for a pontoon bridge, under direct machine gun fire. Later he carried a cable for another bridge over the Est canal, across an open field covered by enemy machine guns. Here he was wounded by a machine gun bullet, but returned carrying a message of great importance. Corporal Sevalia's home is in Brule, Wis.

ALPHEUS E. STEWART,

Private, Company G, 107th Infantry.

Private Stewart received the Distinguished War Cross in recognition of unusual gallantry in action near Ronsoy, France, September 29, 1918. Disregarding a severe wound in the head, Private Stewart fearlessly advanced toward an enemy machine gun nest and put it out of action with a grenade a few seconds before he was killed by fire from another machine gun nest near by. His home was in Jordantown, Tex.

GERMANS AGAIN APPEAR IN PARIS

Mysteriously Reopen Cafes and Stores Owing to Laxity of Government.

MANY STAYED DURING WAR

Remained in Old Haunts Without Molestation From Police—Many Drift in Through Swiss Frontier Since Armistice.

By BURR PRICE.

In the New York Herald. Paris.—Mysteriously, steadily, brazenly in defiance of a law of the land, the Germans are reappearing in Paris. They are living without disguise in the capital, still technically an armed camp of war. In greater number, in bolder manner, they are living in the outlying districts, just beyond the fortifications.

They are resuming the proprietorship of small cafes—as by magic they are popping up with smiles behind the little zinc bars from which they disappeared so precipitately in 1914. Whence came they? Have they been hiding in their own wine cellars throughout the last four years?

They are renewing the direction of small restaurants, where sauerkraut once was the "specialite de la maison"—go into the kitchens now and there you will find the perspiring Teutons. Have they been hiding behind their stoves during the war?

Re-Engaging in Trade.

They are reopening corner grocery stores—only that's not the name for them in France—and little businesses of all sorts. They are now freely engaging in the supply trade—it has been found that throughout the long hostilities many Germans who had succeeded in remaining in French territory had piled their business of furnishing war material to the army. Scorn for such traitorous swine who would sell death-producing stuff for use against their own countrymen is minimized by astonishment at the laxity of the French government in permitting them such a practice.

For the last few weeks Paris city officials have been investigating the presence of so many Germans, and it has been found that while a few have been in their old haunts without molestation from the police during the war period the greater number have been drifting in through the Swiss frontier since the signing of the armistice.

At present the hands of the police are completely tied by the fact that 80 per cent of the Germans who remained or have been drifting back are naturalized as Frenchmen, and the chamber, with characteristic procrastination, keeps putting off passage of the proper measures to take this naturalization from the Germans and permit the police to oust them.

An illuminating article was published in La Liberte the other evening signed by H. Galli.

"One wonders at finding in the midst of the entrenched camp of Paris so many enemy subjects," he says. "There has never been at any time so many foreigners in Paris. I do not mean visitors here temporarily, but people stopping permanently, doing business, exploiting enterprises and all too often taking the jobs of mobilized Frenchmen. Nothing has been done to keep these undesirable citizens out."

In December, 1914, Mr. Laurent, who was then prefect of police, stated that 150,000 aliens were settled in the capital. Today, according to the official figures, there are 171,000. The great majority stay here without authorization. The special commission named to investigate foreigners and issue permits for residence has been unable to pass upon more than 38,000 cases. Three thousand permissions were granted and the same number of refusals were made.

Stayed in Spite of All.

"Those who did not get the proper permits succeeded in staying anyway,

despite all measures taken to put them out of the country. This they accomplished by disappearing for a short time and returning to the same address, or changing their residence and failing to register. About one hundred who practiced these deceptions were caught and sent to concentration camps and another hundred were escorted to the frontiers.

"The most undesirable often avoided detection and investigation. What risk did they run? None at all."

These figures on the number of foreigners living in Paris during the war and the number of them officially approved will be interesting for Americans who have been through the ordeal of getting matriculation papers, permits to live temporarily, permits to live permanently, certificates of domicile and other little scraps of paper. It strikes me that the French police were a bit overzealous in cataloging good, honest Americans—people from home, I know, were most scrupulous in appearing before the proper authorities—while thousands of real undesirables were roaming around unticketed, unmolested.

At the time the Bertha was firing there was much speculation on whether or not the Germans got quick indication of the accuracy of their aim, and it doesn't seem at all improbable that with such a large number of their brother Germans here they had a good working information bureau.

LEADS IN WORK FOR DISABLED

In its provisions for returning disabled soldiers to profitable employment, the United States government leads the world. This fact was brought out at the International Conference on Rehabilitation held in this city recently.

It was shown that, with the exception of Canada, the United States was the only government that had taken official cognizance of the nation's supreme duty to rehabilitate its soldiers incapacitated through wounds or illness from pursuing their former means of livelihood.

In an interview, Dr. Charles A. Prosser, director of the federal board of vocational education, charged with the work of retraining the men from the hospitals, told of the scope of America's plans of rehabilitation.

"When we took our boys from their civil jobs and put them into the army to risk their lives for an ideal, the government promised three things to its wounded soldiers. First, the promise of physical care was made; then, the promise of compensation for injury; and lastly, those who came back crippled were pledged the nation's honor that they would be retrained, re-educated to assume a responsible place in the economic life of the country."

Best Surgeons Engaged.

"For our first promise, we got the best surgeons possible and shipped them to France or installed them in this country in up-to-date hospitals, with all the appliances that science could suggest for making well again the sick and the wounded. Men and

women, experts, devoted their whole time to the problem of taking care of the unfortunate soldiers who found their way into the hospitals.

"For the second promise, we have the bureau of compensation and the bureau of war risk insurance, which takes care that a disabled man shall receive a pension, and in addition shall receive insurance according to the size of the policy he took out. It remains, now that the war is over, to make good our third pledge of occupational rehabilitation."

"In this matter, the United States found herself in a little better position than did the governments of our allies. While they were busy with war, private concerns took up the question of rehabilitation and are in general in charge of the problem over there right now. On the other hand, in America, there was already organized and in operation a board which had been doing the same work for civilians that the government now wants done for soldiers. I refer to the federal board of vocational education."

"In June, 1918, by the vocational rehabilitation act, congress turned over to this board the entire task of re-educating and placing in employment the discharged soldiers, sailors and marines who have been so disabled."

Schools Found Ready.

"We looked about us, first of all, for facilities where this matter of education might be settled. Did we build schools? We did not. We found that in the United States there were \$300,000,000 worth of school facilities, and that there was not a principal nor an instructor in any school who was not eager to take up his share of re-educating a disabled soldier. In addition, shops and factories, offices and farms, all over the country offered us their facilities without stint."

"As soon as the man lands in a debarcation hospital over here we have agents who go to him and put the proposition before him clearly. He is shown that he must not be downhearted, that he has the backing of 100,000,000 people, and that on his shoulders alone rests the responsibility for making his life a success or a failure. He is advised, of course, wherever it is possible, to go back into his old line of work, and where that is not possible, he is asked where his preferences lie. He is educated according to his own desires."

Doctor Prosser gave figures showing the size of the task which the federal board has before it in this matter. It is estimated that about 200,000 men will need the retraining. Of this number half have been crippled by wounds and half disabled through illness.

What Show?

New York.—A set of false teeth are awaiting their owner. A local theater box office holds them for the man who laughed them out of his mouth at the show.

YANK'S NOVEL GIFT TO HIS BEST GIRL



Not many young women who have had a some one dear to them "over there" can boast of a gift as unusual as this girl is about to receive from her admiring Yank sweetheart. The present in question is a belt containing 20 insignias of war, including those of rank, branch of service, and even a general's star. The collection was made by Private Louis C. Haber of the Ninety-first division, who participated in the struggles of St. Mihiel and the Argonne. The lucky recipient of this odd gift is Miss Helen Kosby.

WILL REBUILD REIMS

Cost of Reconstruction Estimated at Billion Dollars.

Twenty Projects for the Work Are Submitted by Leading Architects.

Reims, France.—The total cost for the reconstruction of Reims, according to estimates just completed, is placed at 5,000,000,000 francs, or \$1,000,000,000.

This is the figure of the indemnity which the Germans imposed on France at the end of the Franco-Prussian war, and which they then considered sufficiently large to ruin France, commercially and industrially, for years to come.

In spite of this terrific cost, due in part to the increased cost of building materials resulting from the war, Reims is losing no time rising from its

ruins. For the reconstruction of the city 20 complete plans have been submitted by leading architects of Paris, Reims and other French cities. No one plan will be adopted, but the city will pick out of each the features that seem the most desirable and arrive at a final plan which will be approved by the city council.

Among the details already decided upon are big, broad streets for the principal arteries; workmen's quarters, with gardens, and three series of boulevards, like those of Paris and Brussels, forming complete circles, there being one inner circle of boulevards, then a middle circle and finally an outer circle.

It also has been decided that the buildings encircling the cathedral, nearly all of which are now in a complete state of demolition, will be cleared out entirely in order that the cathedral may occupy a vast open square where all of its beauty may be seen from any point.

AID FOR WAR RISK BOARD

President Wilson Makes Allotment for Expenses From Emergency Fund.

Washington.—Financial stringency of the war risk insurance bureau was relieved by a message from President Wilson to Secretary Glass saying that the president had made an allotment from his emergency war fund to pay expenses of the bureau until congress appropriates at the next session. The amount allotted was not specified.

Treasury officials have estimated a little more than \$3,000,000 will be needed to pay the bureau's expenses until the middle of May, when congress may be called in special session.

This action of the president means that there is no immediate danger of allotment and allowance checks or remittances for insurance of compensation being held up by a forced reduction of clerical help within the bureau.

The sugar beet farmers of Idaho and Utah received \$7,000,000 for their product last November.

CONQUEST OF THE AIR

Aerial Service for Passengers, Mail and Merchandise.

BIRDMEN MEET NEXT MONTH

Big Convention of Pan-American Aeronauts Will Stimulate Enlistments in the U. S. Air Service.

Washington, April 16.—Atlantic City, N. J., will be the Mecca for a large gathering of American men, and representatives of foreign countries, who will be attracted by the first Pan-American Aeronautics convention, which meets there in May.

Capt. Charles J. Glidden of the United States air service, military aeronautics, now stationed in the administrative department of the United States flying school, Southfield, Ga., says:

"The Pan-American Aeronautics convention and exhibition to be held at Atlantic City during the month of May will bring to the attention of the American people the wonderful progress of aviation. The work of aircraft during the war establishes its practicability for commercial uses and insures the creation in this country of a complete aerial service, connecting all cities and towns for the transportation of persons, mail and merchandise."

"Before the close of 1920 I confidently predict this service will be in full operation, with extensions to all countries on this hemisphere. In the United States trunk lines will be established across the country which will place every city and town within six hours from some twenty-four distributing points. Once created and in operation our extensive coast line could be put under complete protection from any possible invasion. Thousands of college trained aviators in and out of the service are now waiting to join in the operation of an aerial service."

"The government calls for 15,000 men to enlist in air service for one or three years' time. This is bound to receive a quick response, as here is an opportunity for men to be immediately assigned to duty in the service and of the number who enlist those who pass certain examinations will be given flying and balloon piloting instruction. This liberal offer is equivalent to a one or three years' college course in aeronautics, and one may become expert in all branches of aviation, and if qualified a noncommissioned or even a commissioned officer. In addition to regular pay, clothing, quarters and rations, extra pay begins with instructions to operate the aircraft. As the number of men wanted is limited to 15,000 for the entire country, quick application to the nearest recruiting officer will be necessary before the privilege is withdrawn."

"Everybody directly or indirectly interested in aviation should attend the Atlantic City convention and exhibition in order to keep abreast with the times and become familiar with the development of aircraft for defense and commercial uses and witness the demonstrations of the world's greatest airplane aviators, who will fly, and balloon pilots sail to the Atlantic air port from all over the country."

SECRETARY BAKER IN PARIS

No Draft Men to Stay in Germany—Talks of Disposition of Government Property.

Paris, April 16.—American troops to the number of 275,000 are returning to the United States from Europe during the present month, Newton D. Baker, secretary of war, said on his arrival in Paris from Bres.

In May, he added, the number will fall to 250,000 because of lack of transports, but in June the number probably will rise to 300,000, which will be maintained as the monthly rate until all of the 1,400,000 men still here are returned.

The secretary said that if any agreement should be reached by which American troops would participate in the defense of the Rhine indefinitely, undoubtedly the only soldiers used would be those who volunteered for such service.

Mr. Baker said he was in France to participate in the work of the American liquidation committee. He expects to go to Coblenz and the former fighting front with General Pershing and to return to the United States within ten days.

The secretary of war declared that no decision had yet been reached as to what disposition would be made of the docks, warehouses and other permanent improvements constructed in France by the United States government. He said that large quantities of captured guns and other war material would be taken to the United States as trophies. Much American heavy artillery equipment also will be returned, but no decision has yet been made as to the disposal of automobiles and motortrucks.

Belgium, the secretary said, is to get large quantities of cotton goods and foodstuffs from the American army.

Threaten Rail Strike in Ireland. Limerick, April 16.—A general strike on all the railways throughout Ireland is threatened for Wednesday, following the complete tie-up here.